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**WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION**



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In reply please refer to:
Prière de rappeler la référence:

5 December 1973


Dear Josh,

We have just finished the final draft of our document for the Executive Board (January) and World Health Assembly (May) on "WHO's Role in the Development and Coordination of Biomedical Research". We discussed this subject at the last ACMR. I am enclosing the Summary of the proposals and a section of the text dealing with the developing countries. We are proceeding to implement the idea of centres of excellence in these countries, as described in the text, and we are focussing in the first instance on Africa with parasitic diseases as the basis.

Dr Lambo, Howard Goodman, and I are planning a visit to Africa in February and we should like very much for you to join us for the trip. WHO would, of course, cover your expenses. We shall start in Nairobi (where I shall be attending a meeting) on 18 or 19 February and would then go on to Ndola (Zambia), and then probably to Malawi and Tanzania. The entire trip would last no more than ten days. We would visit major universities and institutes to determine material and personnel resources. We would then draw up a report with concrete recommendations. We expect to obtain some voluntary funds as a start for implementing the activities, but we are searching for appreciable and long-term commitments of funds, so that a reasonable chance of success will be assured. The help of top scientists from the developed world will, of course, be essential, especially with respect to basic research activities.

We hope very much you will find it possible to undertake this task with us, not only for its intrinsic importance, but also as a demonstration of how ACMR members can and should be more directly involved in the research programme of WHO. I look forward to as early a reply as possible, so that we can proceed with our plans accordingly.

With cordial regards,

Yours sincerely,


Martin Kaplan

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ENCL.: as mentioned